

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner had rejected claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §112. It is respectfully submitted that upon entry of the instant amendment, such rejection will be moot. Newly added claim 3 recasts prior claim 2 into Jepson format, thereby eliminating the indefiniteness of the term "improvement." Additionally, all abbreviations used in prior claim 2 have been eliminated in claim 3. Finally, the last step of the claimed process has been clarified. The claimed process is not a synthesis per se (as correctly noted by the Examiner), but a method of determining the most efficient synthesis scheme by determining which compounds should be synthesized first in order to yield the most compounds for the library. Claim 3, it is respectfully submitted, does so in clear and definite language.

The rejection of prior claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Terrett is acknowledged. However, applicants, through their attorney, hereby respectfully request reconsideration of such rejection. Terrett does not teach how to synthesize a chemical library in an efficient manner. Terrett teaches how to construct a chemical library using combinatorial techniques, without regard to efficiency. Accordingly, Terrett does not teach or disclose the instantly claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the subject application is in condition for allowance and such favorable action at an early date is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



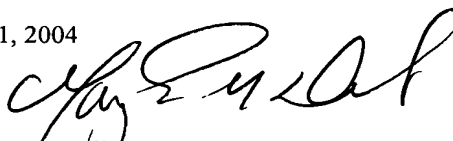
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